

I. **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A catalyst particle comprising an active metal and a carrier composed of a carbon material, wherein said active metal is supported by cavities having an average diameter of 0.5 to 5 nm formed on a surface of said carrier and their edge portions, and wherein said carrier has an average particle size of 0.01 to 10 μm , wherein said carrier comprises a mesophase carbon composed of oriented crystallites comprising a basal plane having a cyclic structure and an edge having functional groups of $-\text{OH}$ and $-\text{COOH}$.

Claim 2. (Canceled)

Claim 3. (Original) The catalyst particle according to claim 1, wherein said carrier comprises at least one carbon material selected from the group consisting of cup-stacked-type carbon, carbon nanotubes, carbon nanofibers and carbon nanohorns.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The catalyst particle according to claim 1, wherein said carrier comprises an activated carbon having a surface area of 80 to 3000 m^2/g .

Claim 5. (Canceled)

Claim 6. (Original) The catalyst particle according to claim 1, wherein said active metal comprises Ru, Pt or an alloy thereof.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) A method for dehydrogenation of alcohol comprising contacting the catalyst particle according to claim 1 with an alcohol.